NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1877.

Vol ... X X X VI .... No. 11,200.

## COUNTING THE VOTE:

ANOTHER DAY OF INACTION. THE DEMOCRATS PROTEST AGAINST THE LOUISIANA DECISION-A RECESS UNTIL TO-DAY-A SECOND

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS. Congress assembled in joint convention yesterday to go on with the count. Objection was made by the Democrats to the Louisiana decision, and the houses separated. The Senate had two hours of keen debate in which 13 speeches were made, and then voted to sustain the decision. The House did not act upon it, but took a recess until Tuesday. A Democratic caucus was held in the evening. Mr. Vance offered resolutions in favor of filibustering, and Mr. Mills in favor of the House electing a President. John Young Brown offered one in favor of going ahead with the count. It became apparent that the revolutionists were in a hopeless minority, and all resolutions were withdrawn.

THE SPIRIT OF THE DAY.

THE JOINT MEETING. SCARCE ANYBODY PAYS ATTENTION-MR. PERRY'S APPEALS FOR ORDER-MEMBERS GO FORWARD AND SIGN A PROTEST.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 .- The joint meetings for counting the electoral votes have lost much of their novelty, and do not attract as great crowds of sight seers to the Capitol as clamored for admission when the ceremonies began on the 1st of February. A few persons, expecting that discussion on the Louisiana award would take place to-day, and that the speeches would be unusually interesting, presented their tickets and secured seats in the galleries as early as 9:30 o'clock this morning, but when the recess expired at 10 o'clock and Speaker Randall called the House to order only to adjourn it for another hour, at least three-quarters of the gallery room was still unoccupied. During this hour of in termission, however, the applications to members for tickets were very numerous, add when the Senate appeared at the main entrance of the hall no vacant space could be discovered in the galleries except the front row of seats on the west side of the hall reserved for the family of the President and in the Diplomatic Gallery. The number of distinguished visitors who were present to witness the proceedings was smaller than at any of the previous joint sessions. Some attachés of the British, Spanish, and other foreign legations, with ladies, were in the Diplomatic Gallery; but Sir Edward Thornton, Capt. Gore Jones, Señor Mantilla and other distinguished foreigners who have shown great interest in the electoral proceedings were not there. A few distinguished American citizens occupied seats among the members. Of these Justice Hunt was the only representative of the Suprem Court. Secretaries Chandler, Robeson, and Cameron and Postmaster-General Tyner were present during the whole or a part of the proceedings. Gen. Sickles, who has been in Washington a few days, came in about noon, and was given a seat among the members at the left of the Speaker. Among others present were ex-Senators Fenton, Fowler, Foote, Pease, and Patterson of New-Hampshire, and Attorney-General Harris of Mississippi; Messrs. Evarts, Shellabarger, Trumbull, Green, Stanley Matthews, and William E. Chandler of coursel be fore the Commission; Mr. Groesbeck of Cincinnati,

Gen. Chalmers of Mississippi, and a few others. The proceedings to-day were almost entirely devoid of popular interest. The Senate, led by the Sergeant-at-Arms and deputies, with its President, Mr. Ferry, and Secretary, Mr. Gorham, marching a the head, entered the chamber at about 2 minutes after 11 o'clock. The Senate was received by the members of the House standing. When it had taken the seats assigned at the right of the Speaker, it was noticed that a considerable number of chairs, both on the Republican and Democratic sides of the House still remained vacant, many of the members preferring to occupy seats in the chairs arranged behind the members' desks, and others showing so little interest in the ceremony as to remain for some time in their committee rooms attending to letter was more inattentive and disorderly than any one previously held. Even while the Secretary of the Senate was reading the decision of the Electoral umission and the reasons on which it was based, many of the Senators and members were engaged in conversation and comparatively few of listened to it throughout. When its reading was completed, and the long protest sent to the presiding officer by Mr. Gibson of Louisiana was laid before the Convention, the confusion increased to such a degree that President Ferry was repeatedly obliged to call the members to order and finally to remind them that unless they ceased conversation the reading clerk would not be able to make himself heard. This protest embodied a long printed brief prepared by Judge Trumbull for submission to the Electoral Commission, and was signed by a score or two of Democratic Senators and Representatives. When this had been read the presid ing officer said he had been informed that several members desired an opportunity to sign the paper, and that if no objection was made he would then allow this to be done. Then followed a proceeding such as was never before witnessed in the House. About half of the Democratic members filed up to the clerk's desk, and one after another affixed hi signature to the paper. Some irreverent correspendent, looking down upon the scene from the gallery, suggested that the funeral service having been read, the Democratic mourners were taking a last view of the corpse. Two other brief objections, one drawn by Senator Wallace, and the other by Mr. Cochrane of Pennsylvania, were afterward presented, and then the Senate withdrew.

IN THE TWO HOUSES.

KEEN SPEECHES IN THE SENATE—BOGY'S OBSTINACY -EXTREMISTS SECURE A RECESS OF THE HOUSE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, Feb. 19.-After the Senate returned to its chamber from the joint meeting to-day the report of the Commission was read. Thereupon Mr. Bogy demanded the reading of the tedious protest which had just wearied everybody by its unconscionable length before the two bodies separated. A comical look of mingled amazement, alarm, and disgust came upon the countenances of Senators. The document was nearly two hours long. Was the Missouri Senator out of his head to force them to listen to it again ? He was as sane as usual, but he appeared to have been nursing his wrath ever since sturday, when he exploded upon Justice Bradley. He was evidently as mad about the Louisiana deusion as ever. A few of the Democrats expostulated with him, but he was deaf to their pleading and atubboraly insisted on the reading. The clerk began the task and went on for nearly half an hour, when he got down to the printed briefs of the Democratic counsel incorporated in the protest. A happy thought struck him. He asked if it was necessary to read the printed matter. Mr. Bogy relented mough to shake his head, and on this sign the dreadful document was shorn of more than half its boring power.

The two hours' debate which followed was, for the Senate, remarkably spirited and pointed. There were 13 speakers, Messrs. Maxey, Kernan, Thurman, Sherman, Morton, Bayard, Logan, Sargent, Withers, Boutwell, Stevenson, Howe, and Christiancy. Some of the erators, accustomed to the Senatorial fashion of taking an hour or so to come to the kernel of an eryumout were cat off prematurely by the ten-Minute rale; but most of the otherte were compact and wall rounded. On the Democratic side the key-

note of nearly all the talk was denunciative of the Commission for not admitting evidence. Mr. Maxey made the extravagant declaration that the decisio of the Commission was against the law and in defiance of the revealed will of God. All the Democrats who spoke appeared to have forgotten, until Mr. Christiancy forced the unwelcome recollection upon them at last, that their own leader, Mr. Thurman, told them explicitly before they voted upon the Electoral bill that the competency of evidence was a chief question in dispute between parties, which the Commission would have to decide, Mr. Bayard's speech, shortest of all that were made, breathed a spirit of sorrow rather than indignation. His efforts, he said, had been crowned only with failure, and he mourned for his country's sake. The decision, he declared in solemn tones, "destroys the essential safeguards of the Constitution and announces to the people that truth and justice, honesty and morality, are no longer the essential basis of

On the Republican side Mr. Boutwell made a very effective effort; falling into the melancholy tone of the Democrats he said that he too was disappointed; he had hoped that there would be a placid acquiescence in the decision of the Commission, and the was surprised to hear the very men condemning that decision who had been most active in persuading their associates to pledge themselves in advance to accept it as fair and just. In the course of what was the most spirited speech on the Republican side, Mr. Sargent referred to the recent attempted assassination of Gov. Packard, At this Mr. Withers laughed derisively. Mr. Sargent turned upon him sharply with a cutting allusion to the murder of Mr. Lincoln by a Democrat and to the recent editorial in The Washington Capital, a Democratic paper, counseling the assassination of Gov. Hayes.

their political power." Mr. Thurman's speech was

merely a synopsis of the brief of the Democratic

A vote was first taken upon a resolution offered by Mr. Kernan that the electoral votes of Louisiana be not counted. It was lost-Yeas, 28; Nays, 41. Mr. Sherman's resolution that the decision of the Comm.ssion stand, the objections to the contrary notwithstanding, was then adopted-Yeas, 41; Nays, 28. Both were strict party votes. Mr. Conkling did not vote and was not seen at the Capitol to-day. Mr. Blaine was absent by reason of illness, as his colleague explained. The Southern Republicans, Mr. Dorsey and Mr. Hamilton, were also absent.

Republican Senators, after listening to the Decratic speeches to-day assailing the fairness of the decision of the Tribunal, could not help feeling amused at the inconsistency into which political necessity had led their opponents when they remembered in what a different tone the same gentlemen spoke in urging the passage of the Electoral bill. Some of them took a cruel pleasure in looking up the speeches, now searce a month old, in advocacy of the bill. Among these speeches one that is worth reading at this time is that of Senator Bayard, in which he said that the decision of the Commission would be accepted in the same patriotic spirit which led Aristides to write his own sentence of banishment upon a shell. Referring to this in a joking way to-night, a Senator said that the Democrats could now follow Aristides' example, and write their sentence of banishment upon the shell while the Republicans took the oyster.

An absurd rumor was in circulation on the Dem cratic side of the House to-day that Senator Conkling was going to speak against the Louisiana decision, and this expectation was urged by some members as one reason for not going on with the debate in the House, and for taking the proposed recess. The eagerness with which the Democrats catch at straws is one of the curious features of the situation. They cannot entirely rid themselves of the delusive notion that took hold of them six weeks ago that Mr. Conkling is in some way or other going to rescue them from defeat.

The protest against the Louisiana decision, which the Democratic Senators are expected to sign, is in the hands of Senator Randolph, and will not be offered for signatures until the close of the count. One of the Southern Senators said to-day that it might not be offered at all.

Before the last Senator had disappeared through the door Fernando Wood was upon his feet and half way down the sisle from his seat claiming recogni-tion by the Speaker to move a further recess until 10 o'clock to-morrow. As it was past I o'clock and no devotional exercises had taken place, the Speaker remarked that a new legislative day having begun, prayer by the Chaplain would be in order. After this the journal of Saturday was read. Fernando Wood was then recognized and made his motion. The vote on the recess was then taken by Yeas and Nays, and stood 140 in the affirmative to 130 in the negative. A considerable number of the Democrats feeling that the caucus agreement of Saturday evening bound them to proceed with the electoral count without any further delay, voted with the Republicans against this recess, and had the leaders of the party thought it wise so to interpret that resolution they might have defeated it. After a brief consultation among a few of them, it was thought wiser not to press the matter to-day.

Other reasons than the opposition of the hotheaded Western men were assigned for the adjournment. Among these the first was that Mr. Hurd of Ohio had been designated by the Democrats to manage the Oregon case before the Electoral Commission on the part of the House. He is one of the best lawyers in the body, but very extreme in his views and strongly in favor of revolutionary measures to prevent a completion of the counting of the electoral vote before the 4th of March. He became so much excited over the decision of the caucus on Saturday night, a decision made in spite of a most earnest appeal on his part, that he decided to have nothing whatever to do with the Oregon case, and has thus forced his party to intrust that duty to a new man who is not prepared. Mr. Jenks of Pennsylvania. who was one of the objectors in the Louisiana case, has been chosen to take Mr. Hurd's place. He expressed to his party associates a desire that he be allowed another day for preparation, and it was to secure this that many of the more conservative Democrats voted for the recess. Another reason given is that the committee appointed by the caucus last Saturday evening, and consisting of Mr. Lamar, Senators Cooper and Saulsbury, and several others, whose duty it is to prepare a formal protest against the Louisiana decision, has not completed its work. and desired until to-morrow for that purpose. Then the objections to the vote of Watts in Oregon are

still incomplete. Not a few of the Democrats who voted for the adcournment did so because they believed that the decision in the Louisiana case practically covers all questions that may be raised in Oregon, and as they are honestly in favor of having the count go on as rapidly as possible, desire to avoid, if it can be done, raising any question as to Oregon. This class of members argues in private that in view of the disclosures made by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, and the certainty of an adverse decision from the Electoral Tribunal, the best policy for the Democratic party will be to refuse to take any advantage of Cronin's vote or attempt to do so. At the same time it cannot be denied that some of the more pronounced revolutionists desired to have another caucus called in the hope of securing a reconsideration of the resolution of Saturday which decided against filibustering. The conservative managers, including such men as Mr. Lamar, John Young Brown, Benjamin Hill, Milton Sayler, and others, declare that the decision of the party is unalterable, that more than two-thirds of the Democrate are determined to prevent any factious delay, and that the party will insist on earrying out the letter and spirit of the Electoral law.

A good many of the more conservative so in tigonet first another caucus should he called, and that there should thus be even an appearance of

an attempt to reopen the question settled Saturday, that they determined not to attend the meeting this

SUSPICIOUS DELAYS. REPUBLICANS STILL AFRAID THAT THE DEMOCRATS MEAN MISCHIEF.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 .- Many of the Republicans are nervous and suspicious. They do not entirely trust to the professions of the moderate men who now control the Democratic party. They are satisfied that these gentlemen will not give their assent to open measures to defeat the consummation of the count; but they are afraid that these men are willing to accomplish by indirection what they shrink openly from being held responsible for. If through one delay after another not too evidently brought about for such a purpose the time could be eaten up so that the 4th of March would arrive before all the States could be put down upon the tally sheet, it is believed that even the most conservative Democrats would not be unhappy, and it is feared that they

the count began. An additional cause for the distrust of these Republicans is afforded by the adjournment of the House to-day. Last Saturday, when the plain intent of the Electoral law if not its letter was vio lated by a recess until Monday after the Commissions' report had been sent in, it was stated on all sides by the Democrats that the count would be proceeded with to-day. Yet after the reading of the protest, made absurdly long it would seem, so that its reading would kill a good deal of time, another recess was at once voted.

will continue to favor such delays upon one pretext

or another, just as they have uniformly done since

There was again a good reason assigned. The Democratic leaders say they want to harmonize their party in favor of carrying out the law by bringing the refractory element into line. Nevertheless, the Republicans cannot dismiss all apprehension. They cannot forget that it is now 19 days since the count began, and that final action has not yet been had on the second of the disputed States. Tairteen days only remain until noon on Sunday, the 4th of March. The count must be finished, if ever, by Saturday, the 3d. Leaving out next Sunday, there remain therefore only 11 days for all the remaining proceedings. Two disputed States, Oregon and South Carolina, are still to be considered by the Commission. If only a formal contest is made before the Commission on these States, three or four days can be consumed upon each of them. Then, if the House Democrats take a recess of a day on receiving the report of the Commission on each case, and another reress of a day after hearing it read, the time will easily be consumed, so that the 3d of March will come before there is any declaration of the result. On that day, by a single roll-call on some dilatory motion, or by a snap decision of the partisan Speaker, the inauguration of Gov. Hayes could be made im-

It is no wonder that Republicans are anxious when they look at the situation in this way. In the length of time already consumed there is a strong argument in favor of the Republican theory that, if if it were constitutional to go behind the returns to take evidence as to the truth of charges of illegality and fraud, it would have been utterly impracticable. Any one can see that when it takes 19 days to decide the controversy as to two States without taking testimony, it would be impossible to settle even a single State before the 4th of March, if both sides were allowed to put in evidence. Thus the workings of the Electoral law bear witness to the correctness of the construction the Republicans put upon it. As Senator Sherman said in the debate to-day, either the bill was a conspiracy to defeat the election of a President, or it could not have contemplated the hearing of evidence.

THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS. THE RESOLUTIONS-NO FILIBUSTERING-DESIGNS ON THE ARMY APPROPRIATIONS.

INT TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.-The caucus of the Demo cratic members of the House assembled at 7:30 this evening. There were present about as many as attended the cancus on Saturday night, but a good many who did not attend then were there to-night. purpose of the caucus was to force a reconsideration of the action of Saturday night and to commit the party, if possible, to a policy of filibustering to defeat the Presidential count, and to prevent the inauguration of Gov. Hayes. Various resolutions were presented which formed the basis of action and discussion. Mr. Vance of Ohio, in imitation of his colleague, Mr. Walling, on Saturday night, presented a resolution recommending a filibustering policy. Mr. Mills of Texas presented a resolution which declared the contingency provided for in the constitution had arisen; that there had been no election by the Electoral College; that it could not be determined who had the majority of the electoral votes; and that the House should proceed to-morrow, at 1 o'clock, to elect a President. Mr. Springer of Illinois moved a resolution providing that a clause shall be attached to all appropriation bills, providing that none of the money appropriated shall be expended for the support of troops in South Carolina and Louisiana; also, that the House shall, by resolution, recognize the Nichols government in Louisiana, and the Hampton gov-

ernment in South Carolina. Speeches were made by Messra. Hunton, Hooker. Durham, Knott, Randall, Buckner, and Harris. . Mr. Hooker surprised his friends by taking directly an opposite position from that which he took on Saturday and declaring to-night in favor of a dilatory policy. He took the position that the Electoral Commission is simply a board of arbitration; that it has not carried out its arbitration in accordance with the terms of the agreement, and that notice should be served upon it that unless its decisions are different its awards will not be accepted. Proctor Knott is represented as having made a very foolish and inflammatory speech. Messrs. Hunton, Harris, Durham, and Buckner made the conservative speeches of the evening. They insisted that there is no honorable course for the Democrats to pursue except to abide by the decision of the Electoral Com-

As the debate proceeded it became apparent that the revolutionists were greatly in the minority. John Young Brown of Kentucky, who made such a vigorous speech in the caucus of Saturday night in opposition to any dilatory movement, perceiving the drift of the caucus, rose and presented a resolution, which, in substance, was the same as that adopted on Saturday night. It declared that the electoral count should proceed without delay. It soon became apparent, however, that the party which would stand by the Commission had so large a majority that opposition would be useless; and upon the suggestion that it would be unnecessary for the caucus to reaffirm the action of Saturday night, Br. Brown withdrew his resolution. There was no division or vote had in the cancus. The only action was to agree that the caucus should take a recess until after the Oregon count. It is expected that the caucus may then econvene to take some action with respect to the proposed amendment to the several appropriation bills. The conservatives say, however, that it will be impossible for the revolutionists, after the Oregon count is completed, to reconvene the caucus for any

dilatory or factious purposes. Mr. Caulfield of Chicago probably made the most foolish mevement in the meeting. He wished to have a resolution passed that the joint convention should reconsider its action in counting the vote of

See Fifth Page.

WASHINGTON.

PIATT'S RAVINGS IN PRINT. A CABINET CONFERENCE-THE OFFENSE TO BE PUNISHED.

FRT TRIEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.1
WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The President called th Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, and the Attorney-General to a conference this morning for the purpose of considering what, if anything, is to be done concerning the publication of a very indiscreet, not to say inflammatory, article in The Sunday Capital, an extract from which was telegraphed to THE TRIBUNE last night. During some discussion as to the authority of the Executive to take cognizance of incendiary writing, it was admitted that under ordinary circumstances the press of the United States rightly enjoys extreme freedom, and that dangerous to liberty and to personal character as it has sometimes shown itself, it is best that this freedom shall continue. It was agreed, however, that the article in question was beyond the limit even of ordinary license, and was calculated to inflame popular disturbance and endanger the peace and security of the city as well as the life of Gov. Hayes should be be declared President of the United States. It was therefore decided that the Government ought to take notice of this article and hold the author amenable to the law providing for the punishment of persons inciting rebellion.

following is a copy: Every person who incites, sets on foot, assists, or engages in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the United States or the laws thereof, or gives aid or comfort therebo, shall be punished by imprisonment not more than ten years, or by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by both of such punishments; and shall moreover be incapable of holding any office under the United States.

The act which it was held had been violated is Sec-

tion 5,334 of the Revised Statutes, of which the

It was determined to procure indictments under the common law, which, by a special enactment, is in force in the District of Columbia. The particular offense for which the indictment will be found will be that of libel. The indictments have already been prepared, and will be submitted to the Grand Jury, which is now in session, as soon as possible. The present Grand Jury is about equally divided between Republicans and Democrats, but it is not expected, if the offense is shown to be unquestionably indictable, that any opposition will be found to a presentment. The President is very earnest in the matter, and is determined to bring the writer of the article in question to punishment if there is any law authorizing it to be done. A rumor is affort this evening that one or more of these articles, for there were several of the same character, was written by a prominent Cincinnatian not regularly connected with Col. Piatt's paper. If such is found to be the case, it is possible that a joint indictment may be found against this gentleman and Col. Piatt under the statute already

THE EXTRA POLICE. UNION MEN AND CONFEDERATES-AN INCIDENT OF THE MUSTERING IN.

fey telegraph to the tribune.] WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 .- When the 100 extra policemen appointed to serve at the Capitol during the count were drawn up in the rotunda to be sworn in, the 50 appointed by Sergeant-at-Arms French stood by themselves, and those of Sergeant-Thompson of the House by themselves. Upon calling on all in Mr. French's line who could take the ironclad oath to hold up their right hands, all except three did so, and two of these having left their right hands at Gettysburg in the service of the Union, held up their left. The whole 50 took the ironclad oath. When Mr. Thompson's line was called ou, only three hands went up; the remaining 47 were obliged to ask for the modi-

This concluded Mr. Hewitt's testimony, but in open conversation afterward he said that he saw that there was a desire among politicians to do a good deal of mudslinging, of which he was heartily tired, and he was willing that the committee should know exactly how and where every dollar used by him in connection with the late election was spent.

David Dudley Field's committee met this afternoon,

and Duncau S. Kenner of New-Orleans was further crossexamined. Mr. Kenner said :

examined. Mr. Kenner said:

Shortly after the first interview with Wells I communicated with D. D. Withers of New-York, a centleman who had large interests in Louislana, and told him that I wanted money to help the cause of the people of that State. Mr. Withers replied, saying that he was prepared to contribute his full share of everything needful. I had no special interviews with Gov. Nicholts on the sudject of my interviews with Wells, although I may have told Gov. Nicholts that I was making every possible effort to secure an honest count. At one of my inter-lews with Wells I said to the latter: "I am astonished at the gravity and selemnity with which you have listened to take s'ory of Eliza Pinkston." Wells replied: "You don't suppose that I am to be humburged by any such yarn as that!" Wells told me that he had been approached by some one who offered him a large sum of moncy if he (Wells) would lef him know the result of the canvass beforehand.

Judge Lawrence at this point wanted to examine

Judge Lawrence at this point wanted to examin Judge Davis and Mr. Abell, two of the clerks of the Returning Board, but Mr. Field objected to the examination of any one connected with the board until this commit-tee should be able to obtain the original returns now in the possession of the Senate Louisiana Committee. The tion was sustained, and the committee adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock a. m.

SUNDRY CIVIL BILL. ITS PRINCIPAL ITEMS-TOTAL APPROPRIATION

\$14,000,000. WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.-The House Commitce on Appropriations has completed the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill. Its principal items are the follow-

For United States courts, including marshals, attor neys, witnesses, &c., \$2,500,000; for support of homes for disabled volunteer soldiers, \$880,000; for the Signal Service, \$300,000; for the Coast Survey, about \$400, 000; for surveys of northern and north-western lakes and the Mississippi River, \$100,000; for lights on the Mississippi, Missouri, and Ohio Rivers, and such buoys as may be necessary, \$125,000; for surveying public lands and private land claims, \$50,000; for the repair and preservation of the public buildings throughout the ountry, \$100,000; for additional land for the Boston Post-Office and Sub-Treasury, \$181,554; for pier-head lights on the great lakes, \$10,000; for day beacons on the coasts of Maine, New-Hampshire, and diaseachusetts,

the coasts of Maine, New-Hampshire, and Massachusetts, \$10,000.

For the establishment of lighthouses, as follows: Canonicut. R. I., \$5,000; Mussel Bed Shoai, R. I., \$5,000; Egg Island, N. J., \$5,000; Absecom, N. J., \$5,000; Grasse Point, near Chicago, Ill., \$5,000; Tybee Island, Ga., \$3,000; Cape Canaveral, Fla., \$4,000, and Cape Ran Blas. Fla., \$3,000.

For payment of claims of Southern mail contractors for services rendered before the war. \$360,000; for the Hayden explorations west of the 100th meridian, \$50,000; for the Wheeler explorations west of the 100th meridian, \$20,000; for the Powall explorations west of the 100th meridian, \$20,000.

For continuing work on public buildings, as follows: At Chicago and St. Louis, \$400,000 coch; at Philadelphia

and Cincinnsti, \$325,000 each; Hartford, Conn., \$50,000; Fall River, Mass., Grand Rapids, Mich., and Evansville, Ind., \$20,000 each; Trenton. N. J., \$14,000; Nashville, Tenn., \$13,000; Baleigh, N. C., \$5,300; Parkersburg, W. Va., \$5,000; Ports Huron, Mich., \$10,000; Atlanta, Ga., \$15,000; and San Francisco, Cal., \$70,000. The total of the bill is about \$14,000,000.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Feb. 19, 1877

Judge Humphreys, in the District Court, recently heard the case of the United States against the ram Albemarle, District-Attorney Wells for the Government and James Fullerton for the petitioners. It will be re-membered that Commander W. B. Cushing and a force of membered that Commander W. B. Cushing and a force of men captured the ram on the 27th of October, 1864. Prize money to the amount of about \$80,000 was awarded in 1865, and Congress appropriated about \$200,000 more in 1873. The amount was ordered to be distributed among the captors. The Navy Department allowed certain officers to share according to the pay of the rank to which they were promoted subsequent to the capture. The other captors protest against this, and claim that the rate of pay at the time of the capture fixes the amount to which each is entitled. The present application to the court is made to enforce their demand. The court overruled the motion of the District-Attorney to dismiss the petition, but vacated orders heretofore made, and gave the petitioners leave to amend.

The House Committee on Appropriations to-day voted o insert in the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill an item of \$360,000 to pay the claims of Southern mail contractors for services rendered before the war. The committee also took up the report of its sub-committee concerning appropriations for public buildings, and decided to increase the amount recommended for St. Louis from \$322,000 to \$400,000.

The rather significant fact has come to light that Maddox, who attempted to sell out the Louisiana Republicans to the Democrats, was set at work last October to help Special Agent Moore cather the evidence of what was styled by an extended ring of precious secundrels the Bristow conspiracy.'

The Supreme Court met to-day, pursuant to adjourn nent, and after a few admissions to the bar and passing ome mandates, adjourned until next Monday.

The President sent to the Senate to-day the nomination of Asa W. Tenney, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New-York. Secretary Morrill continues to improve; his appetite is

returning, and his friends feel confident that it will not be long before he will be out. Read-Admiral Goldsborough's condition is not so enouraging to-day as it has been for some days past.

THE SAG HARBOR FIRE.

THIRTY-TWO BUILDINGS BURNED - LOSS OVER \$150,000-A SCENE OF DESOLATION.

FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. SAG HARBOR, L. I., Feb. 19.-The village of Sug Harbor, situated at the east end of Long Island, on what is known as Gardiners' Bay, was the scene of most destructive conflagration early in the worning of vesterday. The Sabbath sun rose on a desolated waste of land, covered with the smoking debris of what had once been stores, hotels, houses, factories, and mills Thirty-two buildings of different kinds were laid low in the short space of a few hours by the ravages of the fire fiend. The fire originated about 1 a. m. in the morning in an old frame building close to the wharf, where a large number of vessels were lying and where the steamboats land. The building was owned by Gregory & Co. and was used as a sort of shipchandlery store. It is said to have been filled with rage when the fire took place. So far as has been ascertained, the fire must have originated with these. It was first seen by the watchman of the flour mill opposite, who

observed a bright blaze, which lighted up the windows of the store from within. The alarm was at once given by the ringing of the beils. In a little while persons as sembled, the fire-engine was dragged to the spot, but when they tried to play on it it was discovered that some miscreant had cut the hose. The result was the fire gained rapidly, and as the wind blew with greaforce, it carried the sparks all over the village, setting fire to houses in all directions, and to the woods that are situated on the East Hampton road beyond. Stores hotels, blacksmiths' shops, a flour mill, a chemical factory, tenement-houses, private residences, quickly fell, leaving in a few short hours only the smoking rains to attest their fall. The most valuable buildings burned are the Nassau House, a fine country hotel, well the remaining 47 were obliged to ask for the modified oath.

INVESTIGATIONS.

ABRAM S. HEWITT ANXIOUS FOR A FULL EXAMINATION—KENNER'S LOUISIANA STORY.

[GENERAL PERSS DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—A. S. Hewitt, Chairman of the National Democratic Committee, gave the following testimony before the Senate Committee of Privileges and Elections this morning:

He had charge of the national campaign and the organization of the Democratic party in the different States; Mr. Cooper was treasurer of the Executive Committee, and kept his accounts at the seventh Ward Bank of New York City in his own name. Witness directed how the money in the hands of the treasurers should be spenificed. Pelton having nothing to do with it. He never made say attempt to raise funds beyond asking persons whom he thought would be willing to contribute. He knew nothing whatever about the telegrams which Pelton had sent to Cregon. The witness never sent a cipher telegram string the whole campaign; did, however, send three or four regular telegrams not the contest, in one of which, dated Nov. 15, 1876, lie, after receiving a legal decision to that effect from plage Hoady of Cheinanti, told Senator Keily that no person holding an office under the Federal Bovernment was eligible as an elsector, and that the canavasing officers should so decide. He had seen Col. Pelton use the eigher. He has a copy of the key to it, and will turn it over to the committee to-morrow if they desire it. He had never seen any of the echipter telegrams sent to or received from Oregon at the Democratic headquarters in New York. He also stated that Col. Pelton invel in the same house is stated that Col. Pelton invel in the same house is stated that Col. Pelton invel in the same house is insured, but only to a very limited the same and the state of the person holding an office under the Federal Bovernment was eligible as an elsector, and that the canavasing officers was present and the person holding an office under the Federal Bovernment was eligible as an elsector, and kept; Hunting's block, a substantial brick buildvalued at \$18,000, which, however

manity. The losses, as far as can be ascertained, are as follows:

M. H. Gregory, \$3,000; S. S. Crowell, \$1,000; B. F. Hunting, \$30,000; J. Fordham, \$2,000; Nieketson & Vail, \$1,500; Haad S. French, \$40,000; W. & G. H. Cooper, \$3,000; C. S. Stilwell, \$1,100; Nassan House, \$10,000; G. B. Brown, \$3,000; Mrs. Kelly, \$1,200; Mrs. Graham, \$1,500; Peter Hughes, \$300; N. Matthews, \$1,500; Frank Corcoran, \$1,000; S. E. Rogers, \$4,500; Jed Conklin, \$900; Conkling, machinist, \$1,100; J. Decastro, \$3,000, and a number of smaller losses, making an aggregate of over \$150,000.

THE MERCHANTS' BANK OF CANADA.

A LOSS OF \$710,000 SINCE THE LAST ANNUAL STATEMENT-A SURPLUS OF \$400,000 STILL ON BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

MONTREAL, Feb. 19 .- An informal meeting f the principal shareholders of the Merchants' Bank of Canada, called at the request of the directors, was held to-day at the bank building for the purpose of discussing the reports circulated respecting the concern and the efforts made to depreciate its stock. Several of the shareholders were invited by the board, and others attended voluntarily. The President and general manager, having answered several inquiries concerning the condition of the bank and given full explanations, a resolution expressing satisfaction with their statements, and recommending the shareholders not to permit the temporary depreciation of stock to lead them into sacrificing their interest in the bank, was moved by Mr. Darling, seconded by Alderman Holland, and passed. The statement submitted showed that a total loss of \$710,000 might be expected. Of this sum \$400,000 \$710,000 might be expected. Of this sum \$400,000 resulted from business losses; \$100,000 was required for contingent losses and \$210,000 represented Miswankee Railroad bonds, which it was proposed to "wipe out." The rest and contingent fund at the last annual meeting was \$1.10,000; deducting the loss of \$710,000, there would, according to the statement submitted, be a surplus of nearly \$400,000 over and above the capital. It is thought that the resignation of the general manager, Jackson Rae, will not be accepted.

THE SHOOTING OF COL. MEYER.

St. Louis, Feb. 19 .- Col. Fred Meyer, who was shot by young Dryder yesterday at Warrenton, was rought home this morning, and his condition is such that visitors are not allowed to see him. The ball is not extracted yet. It entered the month a little to the right of the center, and is supposed to be lodged against the vertebræ. The wound is quite serious and may result fatally. The cause of the shooting is not yet explained. One account says Dryder insulted Meyer on the stree which led to an altereation, while another story says Meyer provoked the quarrel. Dryder was attorney for men whose stills were soized. He was attorney for Shariff and gave bonds.

ORIMES AND CASUALTIES-BY TO EGRAPH. Boston, Feb. 19.—A detective to-day arrested vm. E. Morrison, who is wanted in Troy, N. Y., for a \$500 orgery, committed several months since.

PROVIDENCE, Feb. 19.—Thomas Lockwood of Burnilville, R. I., died at the State Almshouse on Saturday last of hydrophobia. He was bitten in the thumb by his dog about five weeks ato.

BOSTON, Feb. 19.—Phinoas D. Allen, foreman of Hook and Ladder Company No. 4 of Boston Highlands, in an attempt to commit suicide to day, bley off the lower portion of his face with a shot gun.

FOREIGN NEWS.

THE ORIENTAL COMPLICATIONS. OSPECTS OF PEACE WITH SERVIA-THE TURKISH ARMY INCREASED-THE POWERS' REPLY TO

LONDON, Monday, Feb. 19, 1877. A Reuter dispatch from Rustchuk, Bulgaria, says: "The number of Turkish troops quartered in the villages along the Danube has increased from 60,000 on the 31st of January to 75,000. The garrison of Rust chuk numbers 12,000 men."

A Reuter telegram from Belgrade says negotiations

are making satisfactory progress, and it is expected that a treaty of peace will be ready to submit to the Great Skuptschina on the 26th inst.

\* London, Tuesday, Feb. 20, 1877. The Times's dispatch from Vienna says "the report is current that Prince Gortschakoff has expressed his satisfaction to the Prince of Montenegro that the latter con sented to send plenipotentiaries to Constantinople, and he wished them good luck."

The Post's special dispatch from Berlin says if is reported there that the conclusion of peace between Turkey and Servia is now assured.

The Standard's Berlin dispatch says it is stated in diplomatic quarters that the Powers have aiready confidentially communicated to Russia the substance of the replies they intend to make to Prince Gortchakoff's circu lar. All have agreed to abstain from any interference until the Porte has proved itself incapable of carrying through the promised reforms. It is reported that Russia, on her part, will inform the Powers of her intentions and of the circumstances which make it impossible for her to forego immediately all interference; but she

THE EAST INDIAN FAMINE.

will give no indication of her eventual isolated action

LONDON, Tuesday, Feb. 20, 1877. An official telegraphic dispatch from the Viceroy of India, dated Feb. 17, reports that the number natives on the relief works shows a further reduction of 32,000 in Madras and 41,000 in Bombay. The prices of grain are falling in most of the Madras districts owing to large importations. In Bombay prices rema

CANADIAN RAILROAD COALITION. TORONTO, Feb. 19 .-- A special cable telegram

from London, England, to The Globe says: "Strong efforts are being put forth to strengthen the Grand Trunk and Great Western Railways of Canada by means of a coalition. The London Times of this morning says that the proprietors of these two great companies must bestir themselves; they must realize the true position of their affairs, and insist on a coalition being quickly effected."

FOREIGN NOTES. LONDON, Ont., Feb. 19 .- The oil combination here has collapsed, and the result will be a practically unlimited supply of oil.

LONDON, Feb. 20 .- Sidney Herbert (Conservative) was returned to Parliament yesterday Wilton, defeating Mr. Norris (Liberal) by a poll of 751 to 187.

LONDON, Feb. 20 .- The Post's Berlin dispatch announces that the proposed repetition of Richard Wagner's "Ring of the Nibelungs" at Bayreuth will not take place this year, having been postponed on account of the impaired health of the composer.

DELAWARE AND HUDSON REPORT:

REFUSAL OF THE OFFICERS TO FURNISH IT FOR PUBLICATION-THE FIGURES WHICH THEY CLAIM REPRESENT THE COMPANY'S CONDITION-A LOSS OF \$555,045 ON LEASED LINES ADMITTED-FORCING UP THE STOCK.

Although the annual report of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company was not due until May, it was officially given out last week that the officers were busily engaged in its preparation, and that it would be ready to submit to the public to-day. It was also officially stated at the same time that this report would show the financial condition of the company to be in much better shape than the rumors on the street would ndicate. A meeting of the Board of Directors was held yesterday afternoon at which the annual report was read and adopted. Both the president and the vice-president of the company positively refused to furnish THE TRIB-UNE with a copy of this report.

A synopsis of the report was subsequently from another source. The report admits that the company lost on leased lines during the past year \$555,045, pany loss on reason meetaring are past year \$0.5050, but claims that the net profits above the Interest on debt, dividends, rentals, and all first charges, including taxes, &c., amount to \$308.020. An inventory of the real estate estimates its value at \$8,532.873; and the estimated value of the coal lands belonging to the company amount to \$11,467.127, or a total of \$20,000.000. The funded debt amounts to \$15,16.000, end the capital stock \$20,000.000. The assets

belonging to the company among the total of \$20,000,000. The funded debt amounts to \$15,116,000, and the capital stock \$20,000,000. The assets in miscellaneous bonds and stocks foot up \$8,988,714, including, among others, \$1,254,268 in bonds of the Bostou, Hartford and Eric Railroad, and \$3,597,086 in New-York and Canada railroad stocks. The amount credited to "bills receivable" is \$2,063,237, and "bills payable" is debited with \$555,000. On Jan 1 there was "cash on hand," \$624,584.

The statement of the officials given out last week was used to "buil" the stock, which opened yesterday morning at ½ per cept above the closing figures of Saturday, 52. The subsequent sales fluctuated between 52 and 553, closing at 55½ bid and 553, asked, the total sales amounting to 17,800 shares. Of these sales, 27 were in lots of 100 shares cach, and only five of the remainder exceeded 500 shares. It was understood that the buils were expecting that the forthcoming favorable report would furnish them a market on which they could unload at a handsome profit, and great efforts were made to keep the price up to the highest figures of the day.

OBITUARY.

" DANIEL W. WYMAN. Daniel W. Wyman, Superintendent of the New-York Elevated Railway, died on Sunday night at his residence, No. 287 Second-st., Jersey City, after a pro-tracted illness, in his 54th year. The cause of his death was heart disease and dropsy. He was a well-known Mason, being at the time of his death Commander-in-Chief of the New-Jersey Consistory of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. He was born in Nashua, N. H., May 30, 1823, and at an early age became engaged in fron manufacturing. Afterward he was employed for more than 20 years by the Eric Railway. He next turned his attention to a practical solution of the problem of rapid transit, and to him the Elevated Railway largely owes its existence and much of its success.

IRVINGTON-ON-HUDSON, Feb. 19 .- Dr. Carroll Dunnam, a prominent homeopathic pl at his residence here yesterday.

PITTSBURGH, Penn., Feb. 19.-Judge H. W. Williams of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court died in this city this afternoon of heart disease,

THE NEW-JERSEY LEGISLATURE. TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 19 .-- In the Senate a

bill was introduced providing that where railroads change their location, land may be condemned in like manner as in other cases. A bill was introduced fixing the salaries of County Clerks in counties of over 100,000 inhabitants at \$4,000; in counties of 40,000 inhabitants at \$2,500, and in counties of 20,000 at \$2,000 per annum. In the House, the Local Option Ell, submitting the question of licensing inns and traverns to the people, was indefinitely postponed. A bill limiting the expenses of the Controller's office to \$5,000, and a bill to punish by fine and imprisonment any fresholder or public efficer was shall be engaged in any contract for a county, township, or city, were introduced.

A NEW TEXAS RAILROAD.

GALVESTON, Texas, Feb. 19 .- The Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio Railroad is now completed and the first train left Galveston for San Antonio to-day with an excurson party, including the Governor and other State officials. The completion of this road opena a large portion of the finest territory in Western Texas, which has heretotore been without railroad com-

THE MURDERERS OF LIEUT. MINTYRE. NASHVILLE, Tenu., Feb. 19 .- Four persons named Holt were arrested here to-day by United States Marshal Wheat on the strength of dispatches received from Chattaneoga and Atlanta charging them with having participated in the murder of Licut, McIntyre in Northern Georgia while the latter was in commund of a force of revenue officials engaged in breaking up illicit distillertes recently.

PAILURES IN OHIO.

CINCINN 1, Ohio, Feb. 19 .- Madison W. Jones. Aaron C. Johnson, and Isaiah Brown, all of Fayette County, Ohio, filed petitions of voluntary bankruptey in the United States Court to-day. The following are their